

on the Congress to show America's leadership by reauthorizing the emergency plan and doubling our commitment to this urgent cause.

One reason for the effectiveness of our efforts is the leading role of faith-based organizations. Last summer, volunteers from this church traveled to Namibia to serve at a home for AIDS orphans. Think about that. People from this part of Maryland took it upon themselves to travel to a faraway land to help orphans, to say we love you, to inspire through their compassion. With me today is a fellow named Chris Dominick from the McLean Bible Church. He briefed Laura and me and the others on the training that he had received in order to go to Zambia tomorrow. Faith-based groups like these are the foot soldiers in the armies of compassion. They are changing behavior by changing hearts, and they are helping to defeat this epidemic one soul at a time.

This morning I also met a woman named Martha Chilufya—was afraid you left. *[Laughter]* Eight years ago, she established Mutata Memorial Center in Zambia to honor her husband, who had died of AIDS. Today, the center partners with the emergency plan and faith-based caregivers to serve more than 150 patients. Martha hosted Laura and Jenna on their recent trip to Africa. And they listened to a choir of orphans who had received loving care at the center. The children sang these inspiring words: "God, you are really there . . . when I pray, when I cry, when I am ill, you are there."

Stories like these bring pride to our country, and they should bring something more. When we support nations seeking to replace chaos and despair with progress and hope, we reduce the appeal of extremism. When we replace despair with progress, when we replace hopelessness with hope, we add to the security of our Nation. As well, we make friends who will always remember that America stood with them in their hour of need.

The new relationships that America has forged in Africa are a high priority for our Nation. I'm pleased to announce that Laura and I will travel to sub-Saharan Africa early next year. I look forward to seeing the results of America's generosity and to assure our

friends that they have a steady partner in the United States of America.

The Scriptures tell us, "I have set before you life and death . . . therefore, choose life." All who wage the battle against AIDS have made the choice for life. Because of their compassion and courage, millions who once saw the disease as a death sentence now look to the future with hope. This World AIDS Day is a day of importance because it's a day we resolve to continue the work of healing and redemption. It's a day to strive for the day when the scourge of AIDS is a part of history.

Laura and I are honored to be here with you all. May God bless your work; may God bless those who suffer from HIV/AIDS; may God continue to bless our country. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:43 a.m. at Calvary United Methodist Church. In his remarks, he referred to Martha Chilufya, director, Mutata Memorial Center, Lusaka, Zambia.

Proclamation 8208—National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, 2007

November 30, 2007

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Accidents related to drunk and drugged driving claim the lives of thousands of Americans every year. During National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month we seek to raise awareness about the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs and encourage citizens to drive responsibly.

As a Nation, we must work together to prevent drunk and drugged driving on our roads. We can all play an important role by educating family members and friends about the devastating consequences of impaired driving and by insisting that they have a designated driver. Businesses, community organizations, and faith-based groups can promote substance abuse prevention and encourage alternative sources of transportation. By encouraging our fellow citizens to make responsible choices, we can help save lives.

My Administration is dedicated to strengthening efforts against drunk and drugged driving. We have partnered with communities across America to increase public awareness about this serious crime and prevent impaired drivers from putting themselves and others at risk. Through high-visibility enforcement operations, the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is helping discourage individuals from drinking and driving. To take drug-impaired drivers off the streets, the Office of National Drug Control Policy is working to give law enforcement officers the tools they need to detect when citizens are driving under the influence of drugs.

During National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month and throughout the year, we are reminded of the importance of driving free from the influence of alcohol and drugs. By working together, we can make our Nation's roadways safer for everyone.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim December 2007 as National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. I urge all Americans to make responsible decisions and take appropriate measures to prevent drunk and drugged driving.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:08 a.m., December 3, 2007]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on December 4.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest an-

nounced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

November 24

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.

November 26

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Situation Room, he had a video teleconference with Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki of Iraq.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with former Vice President Al Gore. Later, in the Oval Office, he participated in a photo opportunity with 2007 Nobel Prize recipients Mario R. Capecchi, Oliver Smithies, Eric S. Maskin, Roger B. Myerson, Al Gore, Susan Solomon, Sharon L. Hays, and Harlan L. Watson.

November 27

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, where, at Buchanan House, he greeted and met with Prime Minister Ehud Olmert of Israel and President Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) of the Palestinian Authority.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with Chairman Abdul Aziz al-Hakim of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq. Then, also in the Oval Office, he participated in an interview with the Associated Press.

The President announced his intention to appoint Abigail Thernstrom as a member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and, upon appointment, to redesignate her as Vice Chairperson.

The President announced his intention to appoint Peter N. Kirsanow as a member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

November 28

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Yang Jiechi of China.